

REPORT
OF
SYENCHUN STATION
OF
THE KOREA MISSION OF THE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN
U. S. A.

See P. 13

FOR THE YEAR
1922-23



Our Syenchun Homes

'Neath Taimok Mountain clad in woods
Of varied hues and shades,
Where streams are tumbling down the rocks
In foaming gay cascades;
Where lofty peaks rise high beyond
The morning's misty haze;
Where pleasants rainbow plumage flash,
And deer come down to graze—
There stand our modest homes amidst
Their orchards and shade trees,
Well sheltered from sun's heated rays
And bathed by the breeze.
Tall grass, wild flowers, tangled brush
Enhance their rustic charms,
And yonder vistas show green hills
And fields of tiny farms.
The linden, hawthorne, and the pine
Sweet fragrances distil,
While songsters of the woods the air
With hallelujahs fill.
Far from the tumult of the town
And all its feverish bustle
Few sounds disturb this quiet nook
Save nature's softest rustle.
No wonder, then, we want these homes
To be forever ours—
Ours 'till we rest upon the hill
Beneath the trees and flowers,

There was a time in the history of our Mission when an Annual Meeting was a kind of family reunion, every worker bringing to it his or her personal experiences and problems, and telling, one the other, of the triumphs and discouragement of the past year. At that remote time each missionary presented his annual report, and it was listened to with great interest and sympathy.

Gradually, as the Mission grew, the annual gatherings lost their family atmosphere and assumed the nature of formal business meetings. The interest began to center in the Station rather than in the individual. The station school, the hospital, the presbytery, with their various workings and problems, became the pivots around which the discussions of the annual meetings revolved. The reading and consideration of station reports was then an important part of the meetings, so much so that even two different forms of reports were required, popular and official; and both were deemed worthy of being printed at mission expense.

Years went on and in the process of evolution, from which, we are told, nothing in the universe escapes, our Mission outgrew this premature state. Now our annual gatherings are neither family reunions nor Mission Meetings, but conventions of a great organization with its great problems of colleges, academies, modern hospitals, medical schools, theological seminaries, and hundred-thousand-dollar plants, as well as with its questions of educational policies, relation to the native General Assembly, attitude toward political conditions, proper treatment of the Board in America, protection of the Korean church from the inroads of modernism, etc. Not only has the missionary ceased to be a unit but even the Station has to a great extent lost its individuality before the Mission.

We, have, therefore, no time now to listen even to

station annual reports, but are satisfied to have them turned over to committees for whatever consideration they may give them at odd times that can be spared from more weighty matters.

Thus the writing of annual reports, in which individuals and stations used to take pleasure and even pride, has become such a perfunctory matter that it is done only to satisfy the demand of law—like filling out a blank of the income tax return.

The present report will naturally not escape the general fate of being filed away in the archives of the Mission after it was perforce listened to by the Station. And yet we feel sure that there are many friends of Syenchun who are interested enough in our work to willingly spare a few minutes for the perusal of the narrative of the year's life of the Station. And if the reader comes to feel that the support given us by friends at home has been worth while, will he not pass on this pamphlet to others who may need the information?

Personnel. At the beginning of the Mission year Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Campbell left for their furlough. In the summer Dr. and Mrs. Tipton and the three Misses Tipton were welcomed back into the Station after their year's rest in the Homeland. In September Mr. and Mrs. Pieters and their two boys moved from Chairyung to Syenchun, in accordance with the action of the Mission. In November Miss Olivet Swallen arrived from America to join our forces. In December Dr. and Mrs. Ross returned to the Station from their furlough.

In October we bade 'good bye' to Miss Edgerton who was ordered home by the doctors. Our hearts were heavy both for her sake and ours, for there seemed to be little hope of her return to Korea.

During the whole year our small community, in-

cluding the children, was blessed with good health. Everyone has been able to carry on his or her assigned task without interruption, for which we are profoundly grateful to God.

We have had our usual quota of visitors, among whom special mention should be made of Miss Hodge, the President of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions; of Mr. Milliken, one of the secretaries of the parent Board; of Mr. Sherwood Eddy who gave us some stirring addresses; and of Mr. Armentrout who spent a week with us holding conferences with the Koreans on Sunday School work. Dr. Swallen spent several days here teaching in the Men's General Class, and Mr. Bruen made the long trip from Taiku to Wiju to help in the General Class of Wisan Presbytery. At the Women's General Class we had the help of Mrs. Genso, who gave the women her progressive ideas on various feminine questions.

Of our own number we lent Miss Covington to Chairyung for two weeks to help give inspiration to the Sunday School Teacher's Institute. Miss Samuel gave to the Advanced Bible Institute in Pyengyang five weeks of her time and as much of her knowledge of the Bible as the women could absorb. She also taught for one month in the Bible Institute in Taiku. In the winter Dr. Ross went down to Taiku with the intention of spending a month travelling among the new churches, but a severe cold prevented his accomplishing much and obliged him to return at the end of two weeks. Miss Ingerson had the pleasure (a questionable pleasure, so far as spending five days in a Chinese mule cart is concerned) of making a professional trip to our Hingking station in Manchuria. She spent four weeks there and helped to welcome into the world Master Bruce Henderson.

Evangelistic Work. One can report no more

than the personal work of the missionaries which is only a very small fraction of the work of our two Presbyteries with their 45 ordained native ministers, 261 elders, 226 churches, 15000 communicants, 6000 catechumens, 12000 probationers, and annual gifts for benevolences of over 50,000 dollars gold. The three clerical missionaries of S'enchun have of necessity ceased to be connected officially with the churches that have native pastors, confining themselves to the churches that are under the care of unordained helpers. Dr. Ross has been asked by the North Pyengan Presbytery to take charge of 24 churches under six helpers in the south-east section of the territory. He visited these churches in the spring and found several cases that needed discipline and in some churches a rather low state of spirituality.

Mr. Pieters was asked by the same Presbytery to assume pastoral supervision of 19 churches under 6 helpers. These churches were all visited, some two or three times. The work in three of the circuits had to be done without the helpers in charge, owing to their absence in the seminary. Not being acquainted with the district he found it difficult alone to fully comprehend the local problems in these churches. Some of the congregations had not had the Lord's Supper administered to them for over two years. The church on the Island of Sindo had not seen a foreign missionary for five years and, consequently, showed great appreciation of the help they received this spring. Mr. Pieters finds that on an average the churches in this part of Korea are much larger and closer together than those south of Pyengyang. The gospel has made wonderful progress in northern Korea, so that if the foreign missionaries should be obliged to leave at any time the work of the church would continue without much of a break.

Dr. Lampe, who has the whole north-western part of this Province to roam in and to give sway to his evangelistic ardour, has been, as usual, untiring in his itineration, spending 129 days among the country churches. He had the joy of baptizing 234 people and of receiving 300 catechumens—certainly an enviable record. He was able to give some of his time to preaching to the non-Christians, which is a privilege not many of the missionaries can enjoy any more, owing to the need of utilizing their time in teaching in Bible Institutes and classes and doing pastoral work in large circuits under their care. Dr. Lampe also taught in three country classes and in the two general classes in Wisan Presbytery.

Our lady itinerators have made many trips into the country districts, holding classes and conducting evangelistic meetings among the women. Miss Covington spent 90 days in the country, conducting ten classes and helping in an eleventh. Her Bible woman travelled also alone in the mountain districts for a month and a half, teaching and preaching. Over a thousand women received instruction and 235 expressed their desire to be Christians.

Miss Samuel reports having led seven large country classes.

The influence of these classes can scarcely be over-estimated. They mean far more to the churches than the ordinary pastoral visits of the clerical missionaries. No doubt, the usual excess of women in the country congregations can be attributed to a large extent to the tireless work of our ladies, who are not stopped either by severe winter weather, or by difficulties of travel, or by the unhygienic and trying mode of living in the country.

The local Bible Institutes had their regular sessions. During the five weeks of the Men's Institute 91 students were enrolled in the first, third, and fifth

grades. There was no graduating class this year. The students expressed a strong desire to have two sessions of the Bible Institute each year, in order that the course of study might be covered in less time. We hope to be able to comply with their wishes next year. Certainly, when men are willing to leave their homes, travel for many miles—often on foot—and not only spend their time but pay all expenses, for the sake of studying the Bible, they deserve every encouragement. Dr. Lampe and Mr. Pieters taught through the whole term, Mr. Ross taught four weeks, and some instruction was given by three Korean pastors.

The Women's Bible Institute was conducted for ten weeks in the winter. Three grades were taught, and the number of students was 35. Three women graduated this year and were just as proud of their diplomas as college girls in Western lands are proud of theirs. Even more than the men do these women deserve commendation for coming from various parts of this Province to spend ten weeks in studying the Bible, paying their boarding expenses,—all this with no other object than to acquire a better knowledge of the Word of God, so as to be able to work more efficiently for Him.

The General Class for Women was attended by about a thousand—a goodly number even though not quite so large as in the previous year. As mentioned above, Mrs. Genso gave her assistance in this. An interesting feature of this class was the organization of a Women's Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society of the North Pyongan Presbytery.

In the early part of the fall a class for women S. S. teachers was held, followed by a normal class for women Bible teachers.

The married ladies of the Station have given a full share of their time to evangelistic work. Mrs. Whitte-

more has been superintendent of the South Church Women's Sunday School, and Mrs. Lampe superintendent of the Women's Sunday School of the North Church. However, the power behind the throne has been the Korean Church Session, to whose advanced ideas of managing Sunday Schools the ladies had graciously to yield. The Sunday School under Mrs. Lampe is divided into 35 classes, 4 of which are for new believers, 7 for catechumens, and the rest for baptized. The high mark of attendance was 688.

Mrs. Whittemore reports that in the South Church Sunday School the number enrolled has grown from 708 to 821, of whom 218 are recent believers. The average attendance has been about 600, and the number of classes 40. On Rally Day this Sunday School gave 40 yen toward the salary of their Bible Woman. It has been difficult to find accommodations for all classes, although every available building in the neighborhood has been utilized. When the new wings that are being added to the church are completed it will be possible to divide some of the larger classes, increasing the teaching efficiency.

Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Pieters taught regularly in the Sunday Schools, Miss Ingerson helped by playing the organ, and other ladies assisted as occasion offered.

Medical Work. Last summer Dr. Tipton took up again his work in the hospital so ably managed by Dr. Douglas Avison during Dr. Tipton's absence from the field. Dr. Kim was also welcomed back in the summer, after two years of imprisonment for some political offence. The great financial depression has had its effect upon the activities of the hospital. An unusually large number of charity patients were treated, and where bills were presented only half the amount could be collected. The empty wards during the fall and winter were a sad

sight, for although there was a great deal of sickness among the people they would not come without being able to pay. Yet, notwithstanding this financial depression, the hospital accounts were closed this year without a deficit, thanks to the generosity of friends in the Homeland. We would especially mention Dr. Surryhn's gift covering the whole of Dr. Kim's salary; the Christmas present of the In-His-Name-Society of San Francisco amounting to 215 dollars; the generous donation from Mr. E. L. Whittemore of Cleveland of a fine collection of recent medical books and of an electric light plant which adds a great deal to the convenience and safety as well as the appearance of the hospital. Mr. E. L. Whittemore has further shown his deep interest in our hospital by pledging the full support of Dr. Chisholm whom we expect here in the fall. We are utilizing the power from the electric light engine for the hospital water pump, and are also planning to use it for the X ray machine when it is installed.

In spite of the fact that poverty has made the people reluctant to come for medical treatment the total number of in-patients exceeded last year's number by 400, reaching 1151; while the number of dispensary patients was 13458, exceeding last year's total by about a thousand.

The school for nurses under the supervision of Miss Ingerson graduated two nurses this year. One of them has also passed the government examination and has been licensed, but the other failed on account of her deficiency in knowledge of Chinese. To make up for this she has been taking special work in that subject in the Girl's School, so that she is pretty certain to pass the government examination next spring. Of the five nurses thus far graduated from our school three have continued their work in the hospital.

The evangelistic aspect of the medical work has,

of course, been given its very important place. No patient ever goes away without having been pointed to the Great Physician. The hospital Bible Woman has done most faithful service in telling the patients of the love of Christ and comforting them in their sufferings. Of necessity, our medical plant, as any other, must confine itself to preparing the soil and sowing the seed, trusting that the Holy Spirit may water it and that somewhere a harvest will be reaped.

Recently the memorial stone for Dr. Sharrocks, the founder of the medical work in Syenchun, was erected near the main entrance of the hospital. It is a beautiful tribute of the Koreans to the beloved Doctor, and will stand there to proclaim to all that his sacrifice was not in vain.

The hospital greatly needs a new and enlarged dispensary in order to cope with the steadily increasing number of patients. The waiting rooms are inadequate, and the one room for consultations makes it impossible for more than one doctor to see patients.

Educational Work. On the whole, the Boys Academy, with Mr. Whittemore as principal, has had a successful year, the only hitch being the resignations of teachers which necessitated Mr. Whittemore's repeated trips to Seoul and Pyengyang in search of others. The total enrollment for the year was 389, of whom 25 graduated this spring. Twelve of these graduates are continuing their education in higher schools. The new school year opened with only 289 students. The diminished number can be accounted for by the fact that some students are preferring schools recognized by the Government. Our dormitories have accommodated 157 students. Of the number enrolled this spring 156 are baptized, 65 are catechumens, and of the remaining only a few are non-christian.

The course of study has been advanced to equal practically the course of government high-schools.

The interest of the students in athletics has been growing. Foot-ball and tennis are very popular, but baseball has not come in yet for its proper recognition. The athletic field has been enlarged by the addition of a tennis court. The acquisition of a fine drill master has made it possible to have regular and interesting drills, which have gained a wide reputation.

We keenly feel the lack of a music teacher, for the boys are anxious to learn both to sing and to play some instrument. A few are being taught by one of the teachers to play the organ, but more are eager to learn the use of the cornet and the trombone, as all who live within a radius of a mile or two from the school can sadly testify.

The work department has been placed entirely under a Korean superintendent. About 80 students were given means of earning their board. They worked with the tenants of our agricultural land, in the carpenter and blacksmith shops, in the dairy, in offices, on school grounds; and as janitors, cobblers, barbers, storekeepers, cake makers, peddlers, and so forth. The dairy has afforded the greatest facilities for working boys, and consequently more attention has been given to it by the school than to other departments. Under the direction of Dr. Tipton and Mr. Lutz of Pyengyang poor cows have been weeded out and improvements in the handling of the milk have been devised.

The total earnings of the students for the year have reached the sum of 2537 yen.

The work department has thus far served only the purpose of helping the boys financially. It is our hope that sometime soon we may be able to start some real industrial training which will teach the boys to earn a living after they leave school.

The whole body of students was organized last year into a Y.M.C.A. to which each contributes four *yen* and a half. The Y.M.C.A. manages all the student activities, chief of which is athletics. There exists also an incipient orchestra. The students support one of the alumni as a missionary in our Chongju field. They also help an alumnus through college. The Religious Committee conducts a Sunday morning prayer meeting and sends out delegations to assist in the S.S. work in some near-by churches as well as individual S.S. teachers. A monthly debate and an occasional theatrical performance might also be mentioned as engaging the interest of the student body.

The receipts were as follows,—tuition 7400 *yen*, dormitory 839, sales to students 224, Mission grant 3881, endowment 2534, sundries 73; total 14951 *yen*. The expenditures totalled 15564 *yen*, leaving a deficit of 613 *yen*.

The supervision of the endowment farms consumes a great deal of a missionary's time. Considering the fact that the income is less than would be the interest on the market value of the land if invested in safe securities, it would seem much wiser to sell the land, saving thereby a larger income for the school and saving the time of a missionary for more advantageous us.

The recent revision of the government regulations enabling the mission schools, without foregoing Biblical instruction, to acquire the privileges of recognized schools by coming up to certain standard, makes us long and pray more earnestly than ever that funds may be found for a new recitation hall and better equipment, without which our school will remain second grade. It will be most unfortunate if, for the lack of a building and improved equipment, our school is unable to avail itself of the new privileges which mean so much to the

students and without which the school is certain to lose its prestige.

The outstanding event of the year in the *Girl's School* was the granting of the charter by the Government last October. Owing to our unwillingness to exclude Bible instruction when the new government regulations were issued seven years ago, at which time we were in the process of getting a charter, the former *Girls' Academy* had to be closed. During these years the school has been carried on under the guise of an industrial institute. But since receiving the charter the school has been reorganized under the name of *Posong School*, and the curriculum has been revised to conform as much as possible to government schools of the same standard. In conformity with the charter, at the beginning of the new school year two grades of a Junior High School department were opened, and fifteen out of the nineteen graduates of the grammar grades remained to continue their studies in the High School. The total enrollment for the school year was 156. The spring term was closed with 159.

The personnel of the students has continued to change, so that now the number of unmarried girls as well as of those under 20 years of age is ~~only a third~~ ²/₃ of the whole number. The percentage of baptized girls has risen to 65% and the remaining ones are all catechumens. Eleven of the students are Sunday School teachers in the local churches.

The first week of the winter term was set aside for Bible study and special revival services. Korean pastors and foreign women gave their assistance, and a translation of the hymn "I Surrender All" was made the key note of the meetings. There were evidences that many of the girls received real spiritual inspiration and uplift.

The self-help department gave employment to

about 50% of the girls during the past school year. But this number has been reduced since spring to 33%, which shows that the reorganization of the school brought in more financially independent students. We purpose to make industrial training a part of the regular work of the school so that all the girls can learn fine needlework and other handicraft. Besides the six Korean teachers various ladies of the Station have given aid to the school by teaching Bible, English, calisthenics and music.

As we look forward and consider the possibilities and opportunities for our Girls' School, we must voice our very sincere hope that some relief will come from somewhere, which will enable us to have a building at least large enough to accommodate the girls who are eager to avail themselves of the educational advantages we are holding up before them and at the same time keeping away from them, in a truly tantalizing fashion. To try to conduct a school of seven grades, where 160 girls are jammed into two low, unsanitary, small, cold native buildings, with rooms separated by nothing but paper partitions, is a task from which anyone but our indomitable Principal, Miss Stevens, would have shrunk in dismay. Not only are the class and work rooms absolutely inadequate for the purpose, but there is no equipment beyond a few blackboards, and in lieu of a gymnasium and suitable apparatus we have a portable Victrola with the records for the "daily dozen." The so-called dormitories consist of several Korean houses which are difficult to keep in sanitary condition and which do not boast a single bathroom.

When we think of the magnificent halls, chapels, libraries, gymnasiums, and the best modern equipment, which so many of our schools in the Western lands possess, we cannot but wonder why the possibilities for preparing Korean young people for life and service

should be so pathetically unequal. Will not someone take up this wonderful opportunity of investing a few thousand dollars, in full assurance of the greatest of all returns—returns in elevated and ennobled human lives?

- Most urgent needs.* 1. Two clerical men, one to take the place of Mr. Roberts transferred to Pyengyang for work in the Theological Seminary, and the other to take the place of Mr. Whittemore transferred to educational work on account of the resignation of Dr McCune.
2. A single lady to take the place of Miss Edger-ton who has resigned on account of ill health.
3. A foreign graduate nurse to help to train Korean nurses and supervise the nursing work of the Hospital.
4. A recitation building for the Boys' Academy to cost Yen 85,000.
5. A site and a recitation building for the Girl's School to cost Yen 35,000.
6. Houses for Hospital employees to cost Yen 2,000.
7. Bible Institute dormitory and equipment to cost Yen ~~45,000~~ 4500

This station report would not be complete without honorable mention being made of our school for mis-sionary children so ably managed and taught by Mrs. Lampe and Mrs. Tipton. Instruction was given during the past year to three grades, and all pupils made splendid progress. The reputation of our school has gone abroad, and we are expecting a considerable in-crease in the enrollment next year. The work has proved heavy for our present staff of teachers, for Mrs. Lampe has the care of a family of six children and a

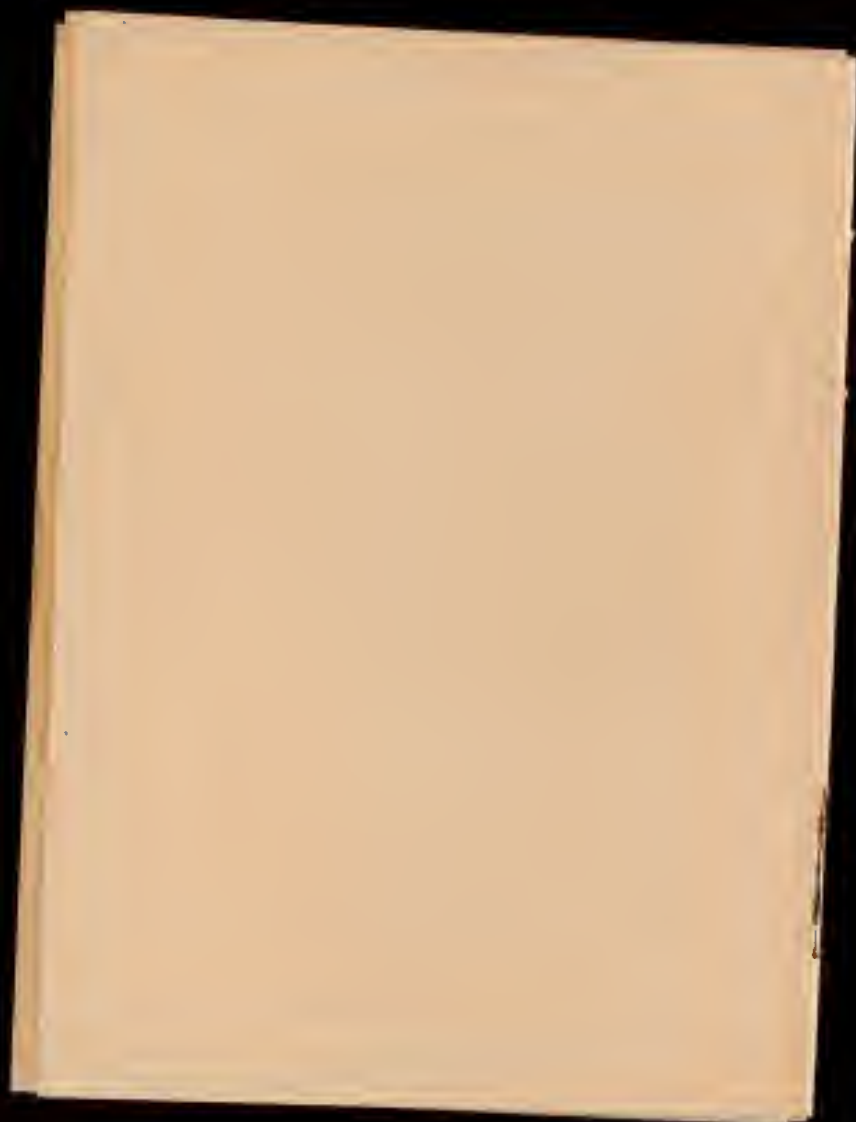
husband who turns up home at odd times that he can spare from itineration; and Mrs. Tipton, though mothering not quite so large a family, gives of her time to help in the social life of the Hospital employees. The need, therefore, of a full-time third teacher is great, and, in common with all schools the world over, this school needs fund, especially for the travelling expenses and salary of the prospective third teacher. We trust that this S O S. call will be picked up by the right people, who will come to our assistance.

This story may be found unexciting reading. But if anyone wants really to know Syenchun let him come here, and we will show him a town two-thirds Christian, two of the largest Sunday Schools in the world, a neat hospital where he would be glad to trust himself in case of sickness, a fine lot of young men and women students doing good work under heavy handicaps, happy missionary homes amidst most lovely natural surroundings, and a small company of men and women working together in the spirit of harmony, sympathy, and comradeship, toward the establishment of Christ's kingdom.

For the Station,

ALEX. A. PIETERS.





楚山對岸의 又衝突

一月廿九日前場 (依然保勢)

거의 阪地 形勢에 對한 楚山 對岸의 衝突은 依然 保勢로 終結한 狀况에 達한 事이다. 一月 廿九日 前場의 戰況은 依然 保勢로 終結한 狀况에 達한 事이다. 一月 廿九日 前場의 戰況은 依然 保勢로 終結한 狀况에 達한 事이다.

爆發彈隊를 組織하여

중화민국(中國)의 革命軍은 最近 爆發彈隊를 組織하여 革命의 成功을 圖하고 있다. 爆發彈隊의 組織은 革命軍의 重要한 部分이다. 爆發彈隊의 組織은 革命軍의 重要한 部分이다.

日本の 赤化를 劃策

일본의 赤化를 劃策하는 日本의 政府는 最近 赤化를 劃策하고 있다. 赤化의 劃策은 日本의 政府의 重要한 部分이다. 赤化의 劃策은 日本의 政府의 重要한 部分이다.

在京宣教師는 贊成

在京 宣教師는 最近 贊成하는 狀况에 達한 事이다. 宣教師의 贊成은 革命軍의 成功을 圖하고 있다. 宣教師의 贊成은 革命軍의 成功을 圖하고 있다.

結局은 夏年會의 附議

夏年會의 附議는 最近 結局하는 狀况에 達한 事이다. 夏年會의 附議는 革命軍의 成功을 圖하고 있다. 夏年會의 附議는 革命軍의 成功을 圖하고 있다.



一月廿九日前場 (依然保勢)
거의 阪地 形勢에 對한 楚山 對岸의 衝突은 依然 保勢로 終結한 狀况에 達한 事이다. 一月 廿九日 前場의 戰況은 依然 保勢로 終結한 狀况에 達한 事이다.

聖經科 除外하다

聖經科를 除外하는 狀况에 達한 事이다. 聖經科의 除外는 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다. 聖經科의 除外는 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다.

民大 起人

民大 起人의 姓名을 列한다. 民大 起人의 姓名은 革命軍의 成功을 圖하고 있다. 民大 起人의 姓名은 革命軍의 成功을 圖하고 있다.

強盜四名

強盜四名의 姓名을 列한다. 強盜四名의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다. 強盜四名의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다.

面長の 橫領

面長の 橫領의 姓名을 列한다. 面長の 橫領의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다. 面長の 橫領의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다.

主日教師 結束

主日教師의 結束을 圖하고 있다. 主日教師의 結束은 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다. 主日教師의 結束은 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다.

壯觀의 水上競技

壯觀의 水上競技의 姓名을 列한다. 壯觀의 水上競技의 姓名은 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다. 壯觀의 水上競技의 姓名은 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다.

長橋町 犯人의

長橋町 犯人의 姓名을 列한다. 長橋町 犯人의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다. 長橋町 犯人의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다.

新郎家의

新郎家의 姓名을 列한다. 新郎家의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다. 新郎家의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다.

青年黨大會 開催

青年黨大會의 開催를 圖하고 있다. 青年黨大會의 開催는 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다. 青年黨大會의 開催는 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다.

中毒者 一名

中毒者 一名의 姓名을 列한다. 中毒者 一名의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다. 中毒者 一名의 姓名은 警察의 追緝을 圖하고 있다.

全朝鮮青年黨 大會 主催文

全朝鮮青年黨 大會 主催文의 內容을 列한다. 全朝鮮青年黨 大會 主催文의 內容은 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다. 全朝鮮青年黨 大會 主催文의 內容은 學校의 改革을 圖하고 있다.

I want to ask to missionary " How do you think about the result?" If you would want to make the disciples, you can build up another professional bible school or theological seminary. I hope you will understand about my opinion. As you know, Korean youth people want very strongly to study. As you already taught about the way and the salvation, I hope you will give up your strong opinion by well-meaning and you will choose the right way.

The Temp. A. Elko, Seoul, Korea
Jan. 28, 1922

The problems of Bible study in Mission school:

— Dictatorship of Western Mission Committee —

I've been heard that Mission school has Bible study in problems; the students don't want to study the Bible because they have to study to go to higher professional school, and that decision came from western missionary.

I think that is religious over action. As you know in recently, we decided to separate between politics and religion in our country's situation. So I don't care to study the Bible in the Seminary or in professional bible school, but in general high school has to inhibit that.

If you would not cease to study (Bible), Mission work will have so many trouble in our country.

I've been heard that Presbyterian schools have the ~~bible~~ times to study bible in every week, and ^{from 5 to 8} further more the students have responsibility to recite the verse.

So they cannot study general subjects, they can not develop their personality.

Recitation Block
Winnipeg Academy
Pyung Young
Choon



2nd Floor
Scale 1/8" = 1 ft.

Architect
1911

RECORDED
NOV 1 1907
TREASURER'S OFFICE



West Front
scale $\frac{1}{8}'' = 1 \text{ ft.}$

Recitation Bldg.
Woman's Academy
Pyun g Young
Chosen

This is Copy
 for File
 Mission Property
 Attached
 Committee
 Oct 21, 1922
 P.M. in
 day

No. 24

RECEIVED
 NOV 10 1922
 THE SECRETARY



Plans & Elevations of Recitation Bldg.
 Womans Academy. P. Y.
 1922.

Prepared by Chas...

Approved by P. Young
 May 15-22

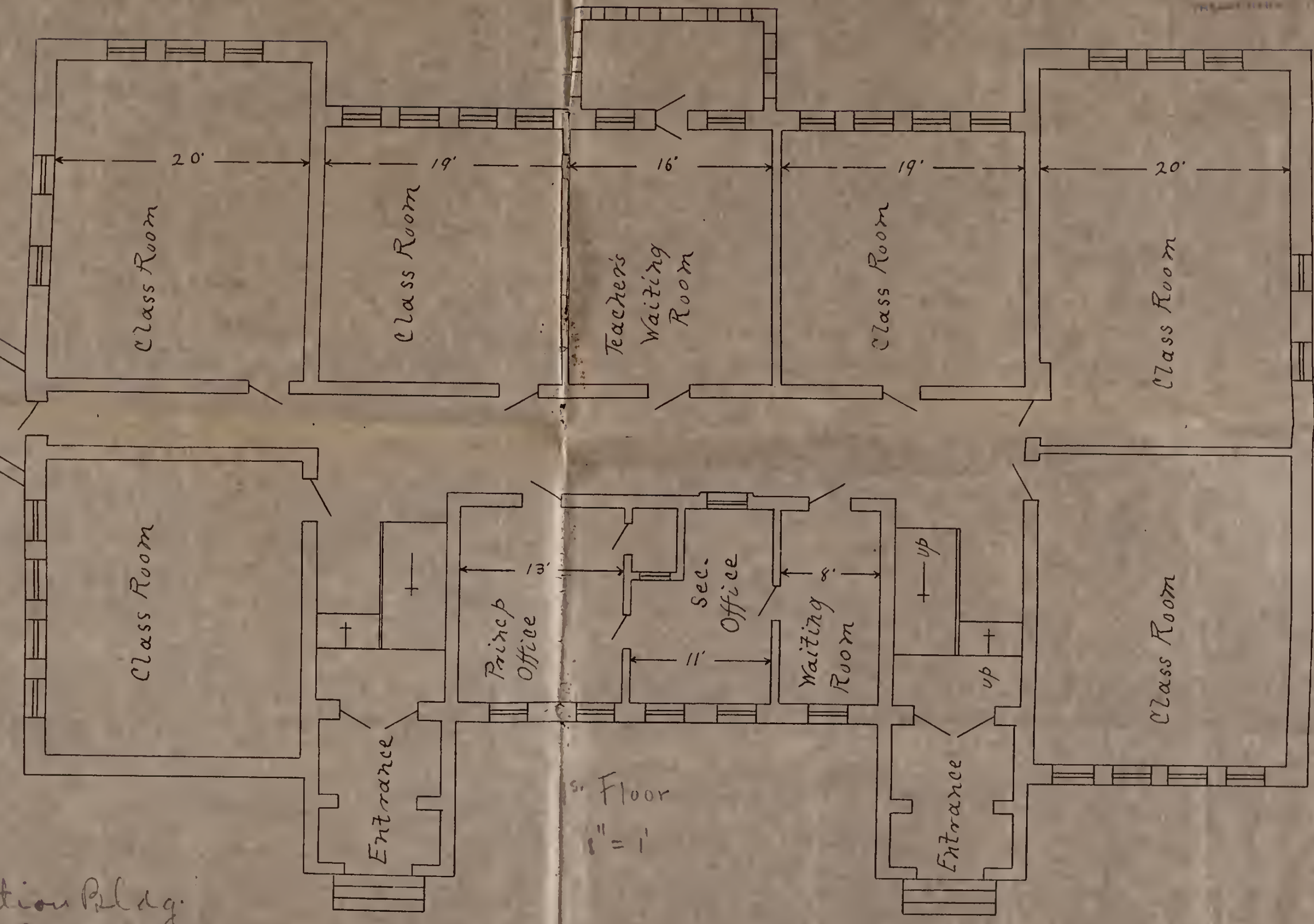
East Front
 Scale 1/8" = 1 ft.

Approved by

	DATE.
John F. Senso	May 17, 1922
Harold H. Henderson	May 19, 1922
Geo. H. Wain	May 24, 1922
C. S. Hoffman	June 1, 1922
Robt. McMurtrie	Sept 27-22

Filed
 Oct 20 1922

Con'd door to
Domestic Sci.
Bldg.



1st Floor
Scale 1/8" = 1'

8" = 1'

Recitation Bldg.
Woman's Academy
Pyeng Yang
Chosen.

48 roll



Recitation Bldg.
 Woman's Academy
 Pyang Yang,
 Chosen.

Basement
 Scale 3/16"

1923-24

The Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY
Department for Specific Work
Foreign Mission Field Correspondence

If you are not an individual donor, this letter is sent to you for presentation in your Church or Sunday School. Will you please present it next Sunday?

STATION LETTER FROM SEOUL, CHOSEN MISSION
FALL LETTER - 1923

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY FOR SCHOOLS

The New Educational Ordinance for Chosen issued a little more than a year ago, was hailed by all alike as a most desirable advance in education, and a substantial evidence of the high purpose of the Chosen government to do everything possible for the welfare and development of the people of Korea. The period of transition during the year has been a bit difficult, problems arising for both the government and the schools. One of the most difficult of these problems was in connection with the many private schools (most of them Mission schools) that did not come under the regular school system. Being outside the regular school system, how could they be brought into line, and their graduates become qualified to enter the higher institutions of learning that were in the regular school system? That was the question, and both the schools and the government addressed themselves to its solution; the schools by making every effort to bring their work up to the government standard for schools of similar grade; and the government by endeavoring to work out a satisfactory plan whereby such schools could reap the reward of their labors and receive approval. The task was not an easy one. There were many ups and downs; even times when it seemed the problem could not be solved, but the educational authorities repeatedly told us that there would be some way out and encouraged us to continue improving our schools toward this end. The result of it all is the following ruling of the Government-General of Chosen.

1. The Governor-General of Chosen may designate...such schools not coming under the regular school system as have qualified themselves by the general excellence of their work to be recognized as equivalent to a Middle School or Girls' High School having a four year course, thereby making the graduates of those schools eligible for admission to higher institutions under the regular school system in Chosen.

2. The nomination of such schools will be made, as in Japan proper, only after thorough investigation of their entrance qualification, organization, equipment, teaching staff, school course, curriculum, attendance and scholarship of their students, number and after-record of their graduates, etc.

The gratitude of the missionaries in receiving such a satisfactory solution of this problem was equaled only by the apparent joy of the Governor-General in granting it. To be able now to cooperate with the government in giving to the Korean people the best education possible, and at the same time conserve our special religious function as Mission schools, is indeed a matter for gratitude both here and in the homeland. The door is wide open for our future development so far as the government is concerned. The only limitation to progress will be natural ones arising from our own lack of resources. While this phase

Seoul, Chosen Mission--Fall Letter, 1923

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of the situation will come to us all, and from it new problems arise, yet we dare express the hope that many of our schools can and will be raised to and maintained at a standard of efficiency that will make the government not only willing but glad to place them among the list of recognized schools. To this end we shall now bend all our energies on the field, and confidently trust that sufficient funds will be forthcoming from the homeland for all our needs, -for buildings, equipment, current expenses, etc. By so doing we shall best be able to express our full appreciation of what the government has made possible for us.

(Rev.) Roscoe C. Coen

(Editorial in The Korea Mission Field, June 1923)

SPECIAL MEETINGS IN KOREAN CHURCH--KOREANS LOVE MUSIC

There have been special meetings in the Korean church this week, conducted by the regular pastor. He is a very fine, fearless speaker, telling the people their faults and expounding the way a Christian should live and be different from others. This church has advanced to the point of having wooden benches with backs, but with no carpets on the floor. I think all Korean churches are very noisy but it is especially hard to hear a speaker while people go back and forth in the aisles with hobnailed shoes. I always try to get a near-the-front seat. Koreans love music, but they do not always hit our tunes very well. The leader of the singing is a young Korean doctor who has had training in Peking, and who now is surgeon in the hospital. He is an exceptionally fine man, and I am so glad he is taking such an active part in the church.

Feb. 16, 1923

Edna Lawrence

GOOD RESULTS FROM THE SEOUL GENERAL CLASS

This year, in one village, I was particularly cheered to see what the Seoul General Class can do. A woman of fifty, wife of a helper, has had no teaching but that given in these classes. I have known her well for twenty years, and during the early part of that time she was a servant in a missionary family. She is full of love for all, her beaming face showing her radiant soul. She walks many miles on weary feet to distant villages to teach and preach. One Christian woman I saw reminded me of the miracles of Christ's day. For years she had been a sinner full of many evils. For three years this Bible woman had labored over her, preaching, praying, exhorting, till now her house is purified, her sins washed away, leaving her a rejoicing Christian. This Bible woman has gone to the Pyeng Yang Bible Institute for three months, and I know what a Christian convention will be to her.

We are very happy to have the Bible Institute in Seoul, in Miss Marion Hartness's efficient hands. More and more I hope the women of the churches will attend, not only those receiving a salary, but women in their homes, whose children are past the infant stage. I should like to encourage members of the family to help with housework during those three months, as their work for the Master, to allow one sister to attend Bible Institute. In this way the whole grade of the life of the Church would be raised.

Katherine Wambold

Annual Report, April 3, 1923

ADDRESS:-

Seth Low Hall, Columbia University, New York City.

THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
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156 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

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MRS. A. W. DIMOCK

STATION LETTER FROM CHAIRYUNG, CHOSEN MISSION
WINTER - 1923-24

WANDERINGS IN THE COUNTRY FIELD

Six of us have taken a wonderful trip. On the wings of imagination, assisted somewhat by a rattly Pegasus, we flew around the lofty Ku Wul San Mountain and back three thousand years to the day when the mighty Tangun reassumed his godly form and returned to his heavenly realm. But it was not until the Christ who came down from the mountain top to dwell with men, was heralded in the great plains that the Cross pointed the true way to that realm above. Dr. Underwood, working in from that first beacon hill on the coast, Sorai, and Drs. Moffet, Lee, Swallen and others coming down from Pyengyang founded many churches in this region, multiplied now until many a broad valley is dominated by the white plastered, cross-bearing church.

At Chaingyung we found a big church and school on a hill overlooking the town and the entire valley as well. It was a beautiful sight to see the white-robed figures wending their way up through the town to the call of the church bell. A few late comers were caught in a sudden shower but the heavens were smiling again as we went on. Again there were churches to right of us, churches to the left of us, churches in front of us as we climbed in and out of the many lovely valleys and up over a ridge. The purple mass of the mountain seemed to brood over the land, a mountain rich in ancient lore and scenic beauty. We glimpsed just one of the ancient dolmens that are scattered over this district, upright stones with their great covering slab. When the unrolling scroll of time discovers their secret significance we may then be linked up with this our adopted people through an ancient as well as a modern ecclesiastical ritual.

The solidly built church at Eul Youl, with its secluded grounds, comes nearer inspiring that feeling of awe and reverence one feels in our own large churches or even in heathen temples than any other church in the country. A very attentive congregation gathered to meet us and we were given a royal feast. Here again a sharp shower just missed us.

Our last stop was at Songwha, where a pastor had so won his people in the few months he had been there that the church had to be enlarged all around. A quiet crowd gathered in the open pavilion in the light of wind-swept lanterns, finding seats on nail kegs and piles of lumber. We soon saw why the pastor was so popular among his flock. The doctor was kept busy every minute next morning running a regular clinic, the pastor bringing all the maim and halt and blind.

Chairyung, Chosen Mission--Winter, 1923-24

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Perhaps his own sufferings from headaches make him more solicitous of others. The patients all seen, we started homeward, again passing churches.

The nearer we approached to Chairyung, the more evidences of a heavy rain were seen on either hand. We were indeed grateful that the long drought was over and nature again smiled in her green freshness.

Received Dec. 26, 1923

(Mrs. R.K.) Lura McLane Smith

BIBLE STUDENTS HEROINES OF THEIR FAITH

I wonder how many of my friends at home could pass the sets of Bible examination questions I have made out for the Women's Bible School. The women and I have reveled in Bible geography this term. They had never studied it before and it was quite hard, but they grew very enthusiastic before the end, and we all wanted to start right off on a sightseeing tour of the Holy Land. Often as I sit teaching these Korean women, I marvel at the attainments of such as they, who have never been to school, who just a few years ago knew neither how to read nor write, They make such intelligent answers; they express real thought, and concentrate their thoughts in writing. Two little elderly ladies who sit in front of me are from the country, and are paying off their board by sewing while here for Bible study. One of them established a church in her own village. Not far from her sits a woman who is superintendent of the women's Sunday school in her church. Just a little back of her sits another woman with a very serious, earnest face. They tell me she almost died from the terrible persecutions she received from her cruel husband when she first became a Christian, But he too, is a Christian now. And so I could tell you something about each one, and you would understand why we love them. After the two days of examinations we celebrate the Lord's Supper together, and I go back to my own field, Chairyung. December and January will be spent in short Bible conferences here and there; during February and March, comes our Women's Bible Institute. I will need the assistance of much prayer with all my extra duties and responsibilities, since Miss McCune is in America this year. How thankful I am for the prayers of faithful friends at home though so often I feel I am not a very faithful friend to them.

THE PRESSING PROBLEM

Before I close I must speak of the big problem facing us as a Mission. You know the condition of the Board finances.

The Board has written us to consider how we can lessen expenditures and so each one of our Mission Stations is considering how, in this way or that, we can use less money; cut missionary salaries, cut educational work, cut evangelistic work, postpone furloughs, perhaps cut out Annual Mission Meeting and do our Mission business through an Executive Committee. We are willing to do most anything but cut our evangelistic and educational work, It seems as though we just cannot do that, with so many opportunities and needs pressing us. Surely something must take place to prevent this.

Oct. 23, 1923

Anna M. McKee

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Chairyung, Chosen

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STATION LETTER FROM SEOUL, CHOSEN MISSION
WINTER LETTER - 1923-24

THE GREATEST EVENT OF THE YEAR

The greatest event of the year in the Woman's Academy was the revival held in the school the last week in January, conducted by Kim Moksa of the Chongdong Methodist Church. God answered our prayers far beyond all that we had asked or dreamed. There was such an apparent working of the Holy Spirit that each day the indifferent with hearts steeled against yielding grew fewer, until almost without exception teachers and students alike rejoiced in release from sins that had been piling up, and in a new consciousness of the Saviour. The building was filled with the sound of prayer and then joyful praise, and we walked in an atmosphere of love and peace.

At the close of the meetings, we immediately started a family prayer circle, at the close of the study hour, this in addition to the short devotional service which the girls conduct before study hour. We teachers take turns in leading, and have found it most worthwhile, for the majority of the girls, even the many new ones who do not understand the experiences of the other girls, remain of their own accord, and although their testimonies have been few lately, their earnest prayers show that they want to keep in close touch with Christ who can deliver and prove sufficient daily. Besides this, a Personal Worker's Class was started meeting one evening a week to study methods, pray for special ones, and report on work done, and so many wanted to join that we divided them in two sections and now have a third for all the new girls. God has wonderfully answered prayer; hitherto uninterested parents, reading their daughter's pleading letters, are reading their Bibles, going to church, or asking for instruction about becoming a Christian.

Best of all, the girls come for help in their problems, for prayer together, or take suggestions or corrections as they never did before. It is a joy to see how many of them are trying hard to get victory over their weaknesses. I feel ashamed of the many times I have formerly let hungry hearts go unsatisfied, but praise the Lord that He has at last awakened me to my responsibility and given me a desire to meet it.

PRAYER, A PREPARATION FOR CLASS DAY

Heretofore our Woman's Academy has graduated students from the sixth year only. This spring we received permission from the Government to graduate two classes, both from fourth and sixth years. Eleven were graduated from the fourth year, six from the sixth year. I was quite touched when I found them kneeling in prayer together just before they went to their Class Day exercises, and the program went off exceptionally well.

Jean Delmarter

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Seoul, Chosen (Korea)

A TRIP TO THE DIAMOND MOUNTAINS

This trip is the last of a series of excursions planned for the students of the Chosen Christian College during their four years course of study, according to the custom of taking excursions now prevailing in the schools of Japan proper and of Korea. On each trip one or more of the teachers go with the students. With the exception of two nights in a monastery and one night on the train, the rest of the nights were spent in Korean inns.

The mountains are interesting to every body who visits them because of their natural beauty which probably rivals that of any mountains in the world, and also because of their association with Buddhism in Korea which dates back to 321 A.D. I was most interested in the marks of the pilgrims who have traveled those rocky paths for many hundreds of years and left famous writings, carvings of images, etc. on the rocks. But even these are of secondary interest to the Christian traveler compared to the beauty of the place,--the jagged mountains, the vistas of blue ocean from mountain passes, the mountain sides in autumn coloring, the Nine Dragon Pool, the avenue of pines and bridges, the feast of vision to stand by the Chung-yang sa (temple) and see in front of you a whole range of high mountain peaks, the entrancing walk up the Valley of Ten Thousand Waterfalls, the ten mile climb over the Inner Water Pass through the 'forest primeval' past the 70 foot high bas-relief image of Buddha, and then the never-to-be-forgotten enchanting walk to the Dog Pass on a beautiful October afternoon with the whole roadway arched with color alongside a mountain stream until your soul was fairly drunk with the joy of revelling in a blaze of color and you stand at the top of Dog Pass and all at once look out over the blue reaches of the sea 2300 feet beneath you. I have given you only a glimpse of what it means to visit the Maple Tinted Mountains. Let me assure you that no one can tell you about it. Poet and painter are quite helpless to describe it, you must see it for yourself. It was very interesting to hear the exclamations of Dr. Lee, one of our Korean teachers who was with us, and who had spent much time in Switzerland climbing the Alps. Perhaps it was his patriotism that made him say that he had never seen anything so fine.

Not only are almost all the teaching staff Christians but so also are the other employees about the college including janitors, office boy, the man in charge of the eating club, and most of the workmen and their superintendents.

It can be seen from this then that every thing possible is being done to make the college a Christian institution. A few non-Christian students are welcomed with the hope that they will become Christians, which in some cases has already happened. If the Christianity of the faculty and students is worth anything, it will be an evangelizing force among the non-Christians in the school and community. A number of the teachers have united to maintain a primary school on the college campus for the Korean children in the villages nearby who otherwise would not have school privileges. It is taught by a fine Korean Christian woman of marked teaching ability. Through her leadership a children's Sunday School is maintained in connection with the school.

Received Dec. 12, 1923

(Rev.) Harry A. Rhodes

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Seoul, Chosen (Korea)

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STATION LETTER FROM CHUNGJU, CHOSEN MISSION
WINTER - 1923-24

THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT TO A RECRUIT

We have a great opportunity here in this province to bring many into the kingdom. Mr. Soltau now has all the churches which number over 50 and he can get to each church only twice a year. A Korean does the preaching the rest of the time. We have only one school where we can train preachers for these churches and Mr. Soltau, who is also principal of the school, besides overseer of these 50 churches, is afraid that we will have to close it because of lack of funds. When he told me that if the school here was closed, according to the Japanese law (because Korea is under Japanese control), it could not be opened again, I asked him how much he must have to keep the school running. He said 500 yen a year which is \$250. in our money and after Mrs. Purdy and I had prayed over it we told Mr. Soltau that we would guarantee the \$250. a year for two years at least and longer if necessary, so the school is still running. We hope to develop it into a real training school for Korean ministers but we cannot see very far ahead at present. The outlook after three months is very bright and we are expecting many happy days in Korea. We have a comfortable house to move into and already we are arranging it. Will you remember us in your prayers?

Dec. 1, 1923.

(Rev.) Jason G. Purdy

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Chungju, Chosen

A LIFE RECLAIMED

The only time I have had to do any real personal work has been at my rest or recreation time, as the duties of the hospital have demanded all of my time, night as well as day. With our second case in the hospital, I spent every minute of spare time for about two weeks. He was a man of high class and good standing, who had become addicted to the use of morphine. Sad to say he had fallen about as low as a man could fall; a wrecked home, a ruined life, and nothing but a drug for which to live. For days and nights after he came in he would cry and beg, saying, "Give me morphine, or else I die." One night while sitting by his bedside, I said to him, "Mr. Lee, if you stop thinking of that drug which has caused you all this agony, and pray for your soul, I am sure you will get help. The loving Master alone can help you." For a while he was quiet, and then he said, "Let us pray." We prayed. He prayed for a long time, and that night Mr. Lee had a new vision and met his Lord and King. Today he is a loving and dutiful husband and father, a living testimony for our Master.

Kathlyn M. Esteb

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Chungju, Chosen

WOMEN IN BIBLE CLASSES GROW IN GRACE

Starting out on my first itinerating trip by myself, I was fortunate in being taken into the home of a woman I had previously known in Chungju, as she had studied in our Institute, and therefore perhaps was spared some of the first shocks which would ordinarily come to an itinerator. We had large study classes in this church, about twenty-five women and girls coming to the church every morning for two hours of study, with a prayer hour in between. After a few days, as we became better acquainted, a spirit of earnestness and prayer was manifested, and on the last day those who had seemed the most backward gave the most earnest testimonies. Every evening evangelistic services were held in the church, especially for the women. While the church was packed, we felt that many came for a "sight-see" of this strange foreign apparition with her white face and large nose, who had appeared in their midst. Nevertheless the Lord honored His Word, and we had the joy, with the Christians there, of seeing some take the first step in turning from darkness to light.

AFTERNOON CALLS - WOMEN PLEDGE 837 DAYS

One afternoon we went into a large and high stone enclosure which I knew must be the residence of a wealthy aristocrat, and there seemed to be many of them in that neighborhood. We were welcomed by three nicely dressed young women, and we sat and conversed on the large porch. We learned that all three were the wives, and upon asking why they had not thought of becoming Christians, they all said, "We know we have sinned, and can not become Christians, and furthermore, the man of the house will not allow us to attend church." We left, and were surprised and gratified to see two of them with the old mother-in-law among the audience that evening. The old woman had wanted to light a cigarette during the service, but upon being informed that that was not the thing to do, desisted until she arrived outside. We walked along together, and attempted to discover what she thought of our proceedings and of what she had heard. "My ears are stopped, I cannot hear, and I am too old to become a Christian", she informed us. None of the younger women ever came again. They were evidently forbidden, but the daughter of one of them became my faithful attendant, ran away every evening to come with me to church, and manifested startling intelligence on what she had heard. She promised to watch and pray until her mother became a Christian also. Of homes like these there are many in this district, and it is usually to the shut-in, down-trodden, and ignorant women that the freedom of the Gospel appeals first.

On the last evening we had what has been tried in the past so successfully in various parts of Korea, namely, instead of a collection of money, a collection of days, when the women who had studied pledged a certain number of days each to be given without compensation for direct house to house preaching in their own neighborhoods. In this way, forty-seven women pledged altogether a total of eight hundred and thirty-seven days. Even though only a small proportion of this is done, it cannot but bring forth fruit for the Kingdom.

From Report of Olga C. Johnson

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LETTER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS SUPPORTING REV. J.G. HOLDCROFT
SPRING - 1924

The Very Northeast Tip of
Korea, on the Way to China.
April 2, 1924.

My dear Sunday School Friends:-

You ought to have this letter in your hands by this time, but for the past month and a half I have ^{not} had a breathing spell, and even now I am writing this on the train. All winter and spring I have been holding Sunday School Teacher Training Institutes in various places with Rev. W.T. Thompson, D.D. who has come out from America especially to help in this work for six months. We have held classes of from four days to one month's duration, the latter at the Theological Seminary in Pyengyang. At some of these classes we have had as many as 350 Sunday school teachers enrolled and 1400 to 1500 people in attendance at night when we held a popular meeting. On Monday March 31st, we left Pyengyang, and went via Seoul to Wonsan, where we took a boat yesterday noon to the port of Chongjin and now we are again on a train going up to a place called Hoiryung. Tomorrow we cross over into China where there are many Koreans and hold a class at a place called Yongjung. This is one of the Stations belonging to the Canadian Presbyterians. We are to spend all of April in this part of the country. Perhaps some of you will feel like getting down your atlases and looking up all these places. Yongjung is east of and almost on a line with Vladivostock. Indeed in Chongjin today we saw Russians, Chinese, Koreans and Japanese and as Dr. Thompson and I are American and we were with two Canadians we saw in all six nationalities. If you look up these ports you should note that Wonsan harbor is one of the best in all the Far East and probably could hold all the fleets of the entire Pacific Ocean.

We thought we had left winter behind in Pyengyang for it was warm there but here the mountains still have a good deal of snow on them and I saw ice two feet thick in protected places today.

Another interesting thing is that tomorrow we will be in the heart of one of the bandit infested districts of China. Indeed the city of Yongjung is surrounded on all sides with forts to protect it from the attack of bandits. We are hoping that we will not come into contact with any of these gentry.

The position that I hold in Korea, that of General Secretary for Sunday School Work, involves a great deal of traveling and of teaching,

Rev. J.G. Holdcroft--Spring, 1924

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besides the preparation of books, etc. If any of you have any really good plans of Sunday school work perhaps you might help Korea by letting me know of them--then we would be truly workers together with you. We have in Korea 4146 Sunday schools with 268,000 Sunday school pupils and 18,000 teachers and officers so you see that it is really a big field. I can very easily send out information to all these Sunday schools so if any of you have plans which we could use they might accomplish a great deal of good.

There is one special thing that you all can do, that is, to send me certain Sunday school helps after you have used them. We follow the International Improved Uniform Lessons, two years behind those used in America, so if you have 1923 Peloubet's, Tarbell's, Arnold's, Snowden's or other one volume Sunday school helps, send them to me when you are through with them. I distribute many of these to missionaries and to Koreans who speak English. Also if you have Teaching Charts, Primary Picture Rolls, and Sunday school cards please send me all you can for the demand for these always exceeds the supply. Please mark the packages you send "For Free Distribution. No Commercial Value". From the picture rolls take out the stick and mail these, or books, or cards, as printed matter, not parcel post, 2 oz. for one cent. If you would each year send me these things it would be a great help.

I will close with the request that you frequently remember Mrs. Holdcroft and me in your prayers.

Yours in His service,
(Rev.) J. Gordon Holdcroft

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Pyengyang, Chosen

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STATION LETTER FROM KANGKEI, CHOSEN MISSION
WINTER LETTER - 1923-24

KANGKEI CHURCH WALKS ALONE

All the family is delighted when the baby first stands alone, without holding on, but when he actually begins to walk around alone, he graduates from the baby class. Everyone likes to watch the growth of the native church in mission lands, and wants to see it begin to do things for itself. When a church begins to strike out for itself, relying upon its own resources, we feel that it has passed beyond its infancy.

In 1922 a committee of the directors of the two lower schools - boys' and girls' - of the Kangkei Church, met in the yard of the old Girls' School, to see what could be done to make the building a little better able to accommodate the increasing number of students. When 150 boys crowded into the three rooms which could be thrown together for chapel, the last few boys had difficulty in getting seated without the use of a shoe horn. So they had to use the old church building for their overflow. This would not do for the winter, for the building could not be satisfactorily heated. Of course there were no desks or other equipment, and everyone was ashamed when government officials came to visit the school.

The Girls' School was the large old Korean building over by the big new church. The one large room, the smaller one and the room in the old gate-house could not begin to satisfy the needs of 120 girls who studied there.

"We simply cannot keep on this way another winter", one of the committee said. "It will eat a lot of money to fix up these buildings to be anywhere near usable, and then they will have to be torn down sooner or later anyhow. If we are going to build, we should do it now, if it is at all possible. Let us go see the contractors and see what they say."

So, after a good deal of discussion it was decided to sell the old property and build. A local Chinese contractor promised that if he had the plans within a week, he could have the building ready by the end of October. Plans were drawn up by one of the missionaries and submitted to the contractor. The figure was beyond the resources of the schools, and the matter was brought before the church officers. It was received with enthusiasm and the officers took over the responsibility, deciding to put certain fields, which had been left to the church, into the scheme. The building committee was appointed, the plans perfected and the contract let.

The main building is in Japanese style, frame with plaster walls, tile roof and good concrete foundation. It is two stories, with six rooms on each floor four of which can be thrown together

by vertical sashes. The boys' and girls' schools do not intercommunicate and the yards will be divided by a high fence. The total capacity is 200 boys and 200 girls. The entire cost, including annex, lavatory, desks and other equipment is something over Y 13,000, and it has been raised without a cent from America. The missionaries were not even asked to contribute to the collection that was taken up. When it is remembered that the Kangkei church has a baptized membership of only something less than 300, one realizes that it is an accomplishment worth talking about, and one which suggests greater possibilities for the future.

Kangkei Quarterly Letter

SIX YEARS SERVICE OF A MISSIONARY NURSE

After giving most of my time for the first year to the study of the language I entered upon my duties at Kennedy Hospital. The hospital work there, although started about ten years before, was in debt and still in an undeveloped condition, with only the native style rooms and very few supplies. It was often difficult to get a patient clean and comfortable, because we had no supplies of clean clothing or blankets and comforts to keep them warm in the zero weather. This situation was later relieved by American Red Cross supplies from Siberia, but the next handicap to the development of the work, was the transfer of Dr. Bigger to Pyeng Yang, and although we expected a doctor in his place, it was not filled until two years later. During that time, with the help of a Korean doctor, we kept things going and we did a rather extensive work, because there was no other place for the patients to go for treatment. When the new doctor came, it was his duty of course to study the language, so that the responsibility for the hospital rested with me for another year; but it was good to have the American doctor and his wife taking over the work as time came for my furlough.

We managed to do major as well as minor operations and I often had to give the anaesthetic, as well as direct the work of the nurses in the operating room; and have in mind several patients out in the rooms and the dispensary at the same time. Of course a nurse is never so happy as when she is busy doing for others. I also had a few necessary supplies put together in an ordinary gingham bag (because I had no other) which I took with me when answering calls for maternity cases. It was interesting to find out by going to the homes how ignorant the people were about the laws of health, and how to receive their little ones into the world. This gave me a chance to do some public health nursing and instructing. It was often a great satisfaction to be of service in this way, and feel that one could help to bring a light to some of these people who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

When so many wanted music and had no way to get it, I was fortunate enough to secure a folding organ and a self-taught course of music, so by translating I became a music teacher. The end of all this work is joy and happiness with a mutual love of many friends such as we all like to have.

Jane Rehrer

Furlough address:- 1105 Stock Exchange Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

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STATION LETTER FROM PYENGYANG, CHOSEN MISSION
WINTER LETTER - 1923-24

ENCOURAGING SCHOOL FIGURES--TRAINING VOLUNTEER WORKERS

The school work is booming. The College has an enrolment of 125, the Seminary 121, the Boys' Academy 537 and the Girls' Academy 176. A class for skilled Sunday school teachers (women) was held the first two weeks in September with about 40 women attending. Following that came a more general class for Sunday school workers with about 200. Now a class of volunteer workers, some 150, is in, these women volunteering to go out all over the province to hold from one to four one week classes apiece to be used a half of the year by the men and the rest of the time by women so that the men will not need a separate plant. The Higher Bible School will, however, require a plant as soon as possible as it will be running seven months of the year.

A MOST ATTRACTIVE CHURCH BUILT WITHOUT AMERICAN MONEY

October 14th Dr. Blair's church in the city will be dedicated. This is one of the finest churches in all Korea costing in all about Yen 40,000 of which all but about Yen 6,000 has been paid in, I understand. The street in front of the church has been cut back to the church line and the street car line is to continue down past the church. Though on the street line, the level of the basement floor is 20 feet above the street so that it will not be noisy. The main auditorium is about 60 by 70 and they have installed seats. Later they can put a gallery over part of the room. The basement has many classrooms. The building is as attractive as almost any of the churches in America. Dr. Blair himself designed it. No American money has gone into this church.

SCHOOL FOR MISSIONARY CHILDREN

The Foreign School here is having one of the best years in its history. There are about 50 children and among them are enough boys to make almost two ball teams. Mr. Erdman is coaching them at baseball trying to educate them so that they will not seem to be too ignorant when they get to America. This relieves the tennis courts also for the girls. The new teacher, Miss Parks, has begun her work very happily and is a great addition to the community.

Oct. 15, 1923

(Rev.) Charles Allen Clark (D.D.)

REFUGE AND AN OPPORTUNITY

The Lula Wells Institute for deserted wives and widows has closed another successful year with a total enrolment of 44. During Miss Doriss' absence on furlough, Mrs. Hamilton has had charge of the classes, which run from 9 A.M. to 12:40 P.M., and she reports that the classes are orderly, the pupils earnest and the teachers efficient. Mrs. Baird, who has been in charge of the self-help department this year, reports that during the fall term twelve girls were

kept in the work department, due to the receipt of three large orders for mattresses, the girls carrying on their heads the shavings from the shops for stuffing them. Two girls earned their way by knitting mittens and woolen gloves, and several went upon call for various kinds of work in missionary homes. There are many girls who desire to come in if there were only an opportunity to work. If you could know the stories of these girls, you would say it is truly a refuge for the oppressed and a real Christian work.

Station Report 1923.

NEW GROUPS STARTED AND GROWING

Out in the country also there has been much to encourage us. The new groups started within the past two years are all most promising and growing fast. This spring and summer eight groups are buying or building new churches, or enlarging their present buildings, and during the last six months four new groups have been started in various parts of the province.

QUICKENING LIFE IN ESTABLISHED GROUPS

Quite as encouraging as the growth of the new groups has been the new life taken on in several of the older places where for years the church has been practically dead and to all appearances hopeless. One church has taken on the entire support of its own helpers, and in several other places the helper's salary has been considerably increased. An interesting feature is the number of young government employees, secretaries in the magistracies and provincial offices, who are now coming into the Church. This is the more remarkable since the atmosphere in such places is usually anything but sympathetic to Christianity and its followers. I am hopeful that several of these young men, will in the future, become valuable leaders and helpers in the Church of this province.

A number of new fields of opportunity are now opening up. The new principal of the Government Agricultural School is a Christian, and a number of the students, who come from all over the province, have already become regular attendants at the church services. The new officials in the jail also are not unfriendly, and we have reason to believe that if asked for, permission would be given for us to go and hold services among the prisoners. Several villages hearing of the new groups started in their vicinity have requested that evangelists be sent to them also, and in other places where anti-liquor and tobacco societies have been formed recently, the members of these societies have remarked "There is only one more thing for us to do now, namely to believe on Jesus". The new railroad into Chungju has already been built and trains are running 14 miles beyond us up into the north. New towns and villages are springing up along it, all offering fresh opportunities of preaching the Gospel.

(From Personal Report 1922-23) (Rev.) T. Stanley Soltau
ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Pyongyang, Chosen (Korea)

Please note carefully: This letter is sent to you because of the investment made by you or the organization that you represent for the support of the work described. If you are the official correspondent for the church or organization contributing, please have this letter read publicly at the next service or meeting after its receipt. If you are no longer such correspondent, please forward this letter to your successor and advise the Board at once of your successor's name and address.

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AIKU, CHOSEN MISSION
R - 1923-24

OVER 500 CONVERSIONS FROM HOSPITAL SERVICE

We have a share in what I believe is one of the most efficient, as well as one of the most spiritual, medical missions in the world. I say this without hesitation as I have thus far had very little to do with building up the work. The other doctor here is not well, however, and had it not been for my coming would have had to return home, and the work would have been closed. When I realize that my presence here this year has kept open a work that has resulted in over 500 conversions this year, and the establishment by ex-patients of about 12 new churches in outlying districts, I am indeed thankful to God for the privilege of being in this work.

Just to give you a rough outline of our work--we have a tumble down brick hospital, which accommodates about thirty patients. In addition we have put up some temporary shacks which accommodate about thirty more. We have a neat little brick dispensary building, where each year we have about 30,000 visits from patients. In addition we have a leper hospital with 173 permanent patients. The Governor has just given us funds to double the capacity of the leper hospital. That the lepers are all earnest Christians goes without saying. To be rescued from the life of an outcast, and given effective treatment and loving care is a sermon which speaks louder than words. Many of them are being cured now with the new treatment.

Received Sept. 17, 1923 H. Spencer Hoyt (M.D.)

TAIKU PASTOR'S WIFE HAS THE MISSIONARY SPIRIT

Recently our former Taiku pastor and his wife who are now in Shantung, China, as missionaries under the General Assembly of Korea, have returned on furlough. Such joy as it has been to see them again! Mrs. Hong tells interesting stories of her contact with Chinese women, her efforts to learn the language, and the difficulties in the way. She said to me: "I am afraid I do not love the Chinese women enough to sacrifice everything for them as you Americans do for us; but that is the way I want to love them." Undeserved as is the compliment, it is cheering to note her real missionary spirit; for whatever we really are, that is the ideal we all hold up to ourselves. Their eleven-year-old son speaks Chinese fluently and has recently been the means of bringing a whole family to Christ. Two of our graduates are also in the Shantung Mission. One of them writes me happily that her two-year-old daughter is picking up Chinese words.

GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION MOST SIGNIFICANT

The recent announcement that the government will grant "Recognition" to private schools, with full privilege of teaching the Bible, is the most significant event in educational work this year. It is cause for special gratitude to the Educational Department of the Government, and of praise to God for such an outstanding answer to prayer. Before our Taiku Girls' Academy can attain the standard set by the Government, two obstacles must be overcome; namely, lack of sufficient funds for current expenses and the difficulty of securing qualified teachers. However, if we fail to qualify we shall be in danger of losing the very students whom we most wish to reach, those who will wield the greatest influence in the community in later years. If funds can be obtained for meeting the requirements as to equipment and current budget, there is reason to believe that the officials will be lenient for a few years in judging the faculty. Last spring the enrolment of the school was 150. It is now 120. Financial depression is partly responsible for the decrease. When the price of rice is high, the farmer gladly sends his daughter to school; but when retrenchment is necessary, the girls must make the first sacrifice. We are also meeting keen competition from other schools.

CAPABLE FACULTY AND GOOD TEAM WORK

The spring term opened auspiciously with three new teachers, two men from Union Christian College and one of our own graduates who has had three years of study in Seoul. By her efficiency in managing the dormitory and her helpful, friendly spirit, she has rapidly won the respect and admiration of students and faculty. For the first time, the men and women teachers have a common office. This furnishes them legitimate means of friendly intercourse, and seems to contribute to the "esprit de corps". Never before in the history of the school, has there been so capable a body of teachers doing such good team work. Of the seven graduates who left the school in March, one is Miss Grimes' secretary, expecting to become a teacher of home economics; one is married, and five are teaching in church primary schools of the district.

Mixed choruses are the newest interest of our young people. Our women teachers and some of the graduates have a choral society and often sing for Sunday services. Occasionally they are asked to sing with the young men.

In January a week was given to special services conducted by one of the most successful Korean evangelists of this district. Since then, at the suggestion of the teachers, the faculty prayer meeting which has for some years been held for half an hour before school each morning, has become a Bible study class. Such faithful attendance and manifest interest on the part of all the teachers well repay one for the late hours of preparation necessary.

Harriet E. Pollard

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Taiku, Chosen (Korea)

KIM SUH WHA - A STORY OF DEVOTION

After Three Years of Illness They Seek the Missionary Doctor - Kim had literally come to the "end of his rope". His wife for three years had been so ill she was unable to help with the housework, and she was steadily growing worse. She was now unable to eat rice, and could eat only a thick soup made of rice. It seemed to Kim that his wife could not possibly last much longer, and his heart was heavy as he thought of what seemed almost inevitable. He loved her dearly and their life together had been very happy.

Some years before Kim and his wife had both decided to accept Christ, and from that time on Kim had been the very backbone of the little church that had been started in their remote mountain village. Being a skilful carpenter, he had taken the responsibility of putting up a church building, and a most creditable building it was. Instead of the usual straw roof and mud walls, Kim had erected a fine building with glass windows and a galvanized iron roof, and a little belfrey with a bell, the pride of the village.

Now that Mrs. Kim was so ill, however, it seemed imperative for them to make the trip to the Presbyterian Hospital at Taiku. Mrs. Kim was tenderly carried down the mountain pass from their village to the main road, a distance of 40 li (about 13 miles). They then travelled along the main road for a distance of 70 li, arriving at a point on the railroad, about three hours ride from Taiku.

They Buy a Stove for the Church and Forego Hospital Aid - As soon as Kim and his wife arrived in Taiku, they started out to find the Mission Hospital. While passing one of the Japanese shops, Kim's eye fell on a little Japanese stove, and as he looked at it a thought flashed through his mind that made him sick at heart for the moment. The little church building, which had been put up at such a sacrifice, was without any means of heating, and winter was at hand. In addition to his fare home, Kim had just eight yen, with which he had planned to pay for Mrs. Kim's treatment at the hospital. If he spent that money for a stove, Kim knew his wife could not enter the hospital, as it was self supporting, and had no funds for charity work.

After a brief conference with his wife, the decision was made. The stove must be purchased, otherwise the church building could not be used during the winter. Mrs. Kim could wait until spring. With light hearts, the self-sacrificing couple turned their backs upon the hospital and all hope of immediate relief for Mrs. Kim, and taking the stove with them, set out for home.

The Doctor Comes to Their Village - About a month later one of the Taiku doctors, in conference with one of the Evangelistic Missionaries, decided to take an itinerating trip. After several days of travel, visiting little churches along the way, they came within a few li of Kim's village. A group of Christians had come out from the village to meet the missionary. After exchanging greetings, Kim, who was the leader among the group, said to the missionary, "And who is this other foreigner with you?" "That is the doctor from the Taiku Hospital", the missionary replied. Kim's joy knew no bounds, and his eyes filled with tears of thanksgiving as he related to the missionaries the story of the trip to Taiku, and of how he and his wife had given up the hope of her regaining her health for the sake of the Lord's work. "But now", he concluded, "the Lord has rewarded us by giving us the stove, and by sending the doctor right to our village."

Dec. 26, 1923

H. Spencer Hoyt (M.D.)

ADDRESS: -American Presbyterian Mission, Taiku, Chosen (Korea)

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STATION LETTER FROM ANDONG, CHOSEN MISSION
WINTER LETTER - 1923-24

A PROMISING START FOR A NEW CHURCH

This fall a long trip was made out east to a district I had not visited for a year and a half. The first stop was at a church whose new building had been finished since my last trip. Then came three old churches, and a ride by auto out to the coast. There along the coast were three more new church buildings, and in one place we turned the first shovel of earth for a new church. It was a three man shovel, and two elders and I handled it. I pulled so hard on my rope that it broke,--which shows how weak the rope was, not how strong I am. This new church starts out with 40 communicants, which is very unusual. Then we saw the timber cut for the new church in the county seat, to be nearly twice as big as any church in the county. A member of this county seat church graduates from Seminary this fall and is taken on as pastor.

QUIET WORSHIP IN A MOUNTAIN HOLLOW--ENLARGING THE WORK

On the way home we passed through three new groups, two of which already had buildings. In the third place, way up in a hollow on the north side of a mountain, they had just used the frame work of a building. There is no town there only a few scattered houses on a wild mountain side; the mountain is visible from Andong, 30 miles away to the south east. We climbed to the top and could see from there beyond this province's boundary both to the north and south. The people rented a canopy such as they use at wedding feasts and spread it over the frame work and we worshipped in quiet. There was not even a dog to bark, and only one passerby was seen all day. Though all the believers were new, they answered well and all but one passed the examination. This one was a man fifty years old who a year ago could not read, but since had learned, but he had not quit drinking "sool". He wept to think he could not become a catechumen.

Two weeks ago my largest country church very unexpectedly got the chance to buy a new church building for half the cost of putting it up. It is also in a much better site than their old building, which they will use for a girls' school. Another large church to the northwest is hoping to put up a church twice as large as any country church and almost twice as large as the Andong city church.

Two more men from this Presbytery graduate from Seminary this fall, and there will be more next year too, We have seven Korean pastors now and about 30 sessions.

Dec. 12, 1923

(Rev.) John Y. Crothers

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Andong, Chosen (Korea)

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LETTER FOR SUNDAY SCHOOLS SUPPORTING STATIONS IN THE CHOSEN MISSION
SPRING - 1924

SUGGESTION FOR THE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE - Before this letter is read make some such announcement as this:

This letter from Chosen tells of a number of things Korean boys and girls and young people did for Christ and the Church. See if you can find all these as the letter is read. At the end we shall write them all on the blackboard as you tell what they are. After these have been written on the board, ask:- How does this list compare with the Christian work we do? Can we learn some things about Christianity from the Korean Christians as this letter shows them to us?

"THE POOREST OF THE POOR" HAVE A GIVING CHRISTMAS

Two years ago a Korean Home Missionary Society in the city built a little chapel and under the leadership of an earnest Christian man, gathered a number of people into the church. Several of the school boys teach in the Sunday school.

The Sunday school for children has grown to about 120 members while there are now over fifty adults attending the church services. They are all poor as people can be and still exist, but they are real Christians.

The Sunday before Christmas, the helper and the church officer gave out small bags about a foot long and six inches wide, one to each person, and asked everyone to bring a contribution for Christian work as his or her gift to Christ on Christmas morning! Can you imagine it? Asking these poorest of the poor people to give out of their poverty on Christmas Day, to the work of the Gospel! On Thanksgiving Day they had given several dollars to Foreign Mission work, and now they were to give more on Christmas, when most of us think of receiving something instead of giving!

Christmas morning came with the worst weather we have had this winter, an ice storm having covered the ground with a perfect glare of ice. When I reached the little chapel a crowd was collecting. The helper said there were over 180 children and adults packed into that little room and around the doors. As they entered they came forward and put their bags full of rice or grain or a gift in money, in the pile around the platform, until soon there were several bushels of little bags. Those ragged little boys and women whom I knew hardly had enough to eat came forward with their gifts. And then they took up a silver collection and most of them put some money in the collection box. The total contributed amounted to almost ten yen, or five dollars, but that represented as much as hundreds of dollars would have meant to the churches at home. These people are now Christians of only a few months standing. That is what the Gospel is doing in Korea. Don't you want to help?

Recently I have had the pleasure of having several of the boys in the Senior Class in the College come to me for advice about their life work, and some of them have expressed a desire to go into the ministry.

(Rev.) Floyd E. Hamilton -- Pyongyang.

December 28, 1923

Chosen Mission Sunday School Letter -- Spring, 1924 - 2.

BOY SCOUTS HELP IN THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

Christmas Eve we had our usual community celebration, consisting of a Christmas tree program by the children, and a simple supper. The committee of which I was a member had a busy time. We are such a large community now - over a hundred including Methodists that it is quite an undertaking to serve so many; but our Boy Scouts helped finely. Christmas carols, sung by Koreans, some of them school boys. It sounded so sweet to hear them singing the old Christmas hymns "Oh come all ye faithful" and "Joy to the world" etc.

At Central Church, a Christmas pageant was given, showing a home near Jerusalem; and how one household, by reading the Scriptures, and by a visit from the wise men and the shepherds, were convinced of the birth of the Messiah. Some of the costumes were rather amusing. For instance, some children were dressed in American style, but the theme was good and well carried out. About two thousand were present, many of them children and the Christmas spirit of good-will seemed to be in the air.

Dr. Holdcroft is now Sunday School Secretary for Korea under the World's Sunday School Association, but is still a member of the Presbyterian Mission. He expects to give almost his entire time to Sunday school work.

January 3, 1924

(Mrs. J. G.) Nellie C. Holdcroft.

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Pyengyang, Korea.

YOUNG FOLKS SUPPORT AN EVANGELIST

The Christian Endeavorers here in Andong have started a new church in a little valley surrounded by low pine-clad hills. A year ago last summer at the C.E. Convention the young people gave money to send an evangelist to this town for a month. Then last summer at the Annual Convention they showed they were not quitters by pledging money to send another evangelist there. Besides giving money they decided to sell Gospels for the Bible Society, for when they have sold as many as a colporteur would sell in a month, then the colporteur is allowed to go and preach a month as their evangelist. They now have about forty on the church roll and have bought a small building for a church. Last fall one young man from this church spent a month here studying the Bible, and this spring there are two from there. In April, after the barley is planted, this new group hopes to have special services and at that time buy a better building for a church. It asks the prayers of the Endeavorers everywhere, for some of the members have to endure much opposition, if not persecution.

February 20, 1924

(Rev.) John Y. Crothers.

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Andong, Korea.

A SUNDAY SCHOOL WITH "LITTLE TEACHERS" -- GIRLS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Last year we started an afternoon Sunday school for small children, the principal aim being to teach Bible verses. Last Sunday there were seventy-eight children from four to fifteen. The most interesting thing about the Sunday School is, that the teachers are quite small girls, some of the older ones being about fifteen years old. I have the eight teachers every Saturday afternoon for teacher training.

Now for our wonderful party! It had been talked about and planned for by the older girls for weeks before Christmas. The tots did

Chosen Mission Sunday School Letter -- Spring, 1924 - 3.

Martin Luther's cradle hymn with motions very well, there were other songs and an illustrated talk by Mr. Erdman which they enjoyed, followed by a peanut-hunt and a Christmas tree, with a present for each child and also prizes for the ones who had taught some one three Bible verses. After the tree came fruit and cookies, and the children were sent home, tired but happy.

One Saturday after their study, I gave them a little fun a "sight-see". I brought out my big doll, which I use as a model in teaching how to dress a baby, and another little doll which had come in a box. You should have seen them! They were wild with delight. They carried the dolls on their backs, as they do their own brothers and sisters. I have seen the little tots in the street with some pieces of broken dishes playing "keep house", except there were no dolls, though the real babies were on their backs.

Our Girls School Missionary Society has done pretty well this year. They have paid the monthly salary of a Bible woman, and they sent some money to China, to two of our graduates who are doing missionary work there. Last summer the girls worked in their own little home towns, teaching Sunday school classes, in night-schools, and helping out as they could, and when they came back to school in the fall, the first meeting was given over to their reports, and they were very interesting.

January 14, 1924

Etta B. Grimes.

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Taiku, Chosen.

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STATION LETTER FROM SYENCHUN, CHOSEN MISSION
WINTER LETTER - 1923-24

ANSWERING THE MACEDONIAN CALL

My work since moving to this Station has been of various kinds. My evangelistic assignment has claimed most attention. The native Presbytery, under whose jurisdiction are all the churches, had asked me to take charge of twenty two churches with six assistant pastors. Last summer I was again asked to be pastor of nineteen more churches. The congregation of these churches ranges between fifty and three hundred and during the year I have visited them periodically.

Travel on Foot and by Boat - Most of the itinerating I have done on foot. Five of my churches are on islands--three, ten and twelve miles away from the mainland. The only means of crossing are small rowboats which make the trip once a day, the hours of departure depending upon the tide. As it is difficult to tell at a distance just when the boat will leave, one has to go to the landing place and wait at the little inn for the propitious time. These inns have only one common room in which each traveller finds his own place on the floor with nothing but a mat under him and a wooden block for a pillow. One day, on my way to one of these islands, I reached the landing in the afternoon, to find that the ferry boat would not cross before next morning. Rice and pickled turnips were the only things available to eat, and as I had to spend the night with fifteen Koreans in a room fifteen by eight feet, I was not sorry to depart. The boat was an open one with only a few boards at the bottom, and was loaded to its full capacity with passengers and two oxen. During the three hours it took us to cross the ten-mile channel, I wondered more than once what would happen if one of the oxen should step too much to one side. It seemed quite possible for the boat to capsize. When I spoke of it to one of the passengers, he remarked that several years ago exactly such a thing happened and that every one on the boat was drowned.

Contact through Korean Food - On my itinerating trips, I have found it preferable not to carry food with me, but to eat native food altogether. The entire lack of fresh vegetables, fruit and sugar is the most difficult thing to get accustomed to in the Korean diet. But the cordiality of the people and their gratification at seeing the missionary eat their food more than makes up for the deficiencies in the diet.

Bell Announces Missionary's Arrival - The usual manner of procedure is to send my itinerary to a group of churches of a certain district long enough in advance, so that word can be gotten around to all the members of the congregation. The people usually come out some distance on the road to meet me, and upon our arrival at the village the bell is rung. People to be examined for baptism or for admission into the class of catechumens will have already gathered, and together with the church officers I immediately proceed to hold examinations.

Syenchun, Chosen--Winter Letter, 1923-24

-2-

These are quite searching so that some times only a small part of those seeking to be baptized are accepted. In the evening the church service is held at which baptism and the Lord's supper are administered, catechumens are publicly received, and church officers elected by ballot. Next morning I try to hold a short farewell service, and with my baggage on the back of a carrier I march to the next place, where the same program is followed.

A Can of Grape Jelly - As it is difficult for the people to obtain grape juice for communion, my wife prepares a quantity of grape jelly, which I carry around with me, dissolving it in boiling water as I need it. This time I had a large Instant Postum can filled with jelly, which, owing to the warm weather, began to ferment, loosened the cover and the liquified jelly ran over almost everything in my suitcase.

After itinerating in this way for ten or fifteen days I return home for a few days to attend to the accumulated correspondence and to the financial affairs of our Boys' Academy and the Girls' Middle School. I have about forty tenants on our school farm land to keep accounts with, and as they farm on shares and each one raises several kinds of grain the accounts are rather complicated.

Nov. 19, 1923

(Rev.) Alex A. Pieters

ADDRESS:-American Presbyterian Mission, Syenchun, Chosen(Korea)

WOMEN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL ENJOYS GRAND MARCH

The superintendency of the South Church Women's Sunday School is still one of my chief duties and joys. The report for the half year since January is very encouraging. In January the total enrollment was 708; in May, 821, including 218 new believers, 140 catechumens, 418 baptized and 45 teachers. Our highest attendance was 628 on April 22nd, but our average is now well over 580. We have forty classes and a few extra substitute teachers. The increase is largely among new believers.

We had a fine time on Rally Day last fall when we took up a special collection of nearly 40 yen for the Bible woman. The women greatly enjoyed the grand march all around the church with the banner carried in front, singing as they walked and dropping in their money as they passed the pulpit. Of course it was confusion from our point of view, but when I asked the women beforehand whether they wanted to do it as we had the year before, their response was so hearty it showed they enjoyed it in spite of the confusion. We were unable to count the number present, for some of them enjoyed it so much they wanted to march around two or three times.

We have been obliged to spread out from the church in every direction. Seven classes are in the Y.M.C.A. building and others in all the out-lying buildings on the church grounds, and we should divide up some large classes now, but we have not a spot to put them until the new addition of the church is built.

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